

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Jerry W. Black, on February 12, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jerry W. Black, Chairman (R)
Sen. Roy Brown (R)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Lynda Moss (D)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch
Nadine Spencer, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 376, 2/10/2009; SB 387,
2/10/2009

Executive Action: SB 376

HEARING ON SB 376

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:51 Sen. Jerry Black (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB 376, Revise public utility laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:48 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:06:20 Chairman Black

HEARING ON SB 387

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:06:39 Sen. Keith Bales (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 387, Revise laws related to the Board of Environmental Review.

00:09:38 Sen. Curtiss entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:49 Candace Payne, Southern Montana Electric Generation & Transmission Cooperative, Inc.

00:16:08 Tim Gregori, Southern Montana Electric Generation & Transmission Cooperative, Inc.

EXHIBIT(ens33a01)

00:17:00 Sen. Curtiss left the hearing.

00:23:15 John Prinkki, Beartooth Electric Cooperative

EXHIBIT(ens33a02)

00:28:41 Todd O'Hair, Rio Tinto Energy America

00:32:09 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)

00:33:42 Al Ekblad, International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE)

00:35:42 Alan See, Tongue River Electric Cooperative
00:36:25 Leo Berry, Great Northern Properties and Great Northern
Project Development
00:39:23 Dave Galt, Montana Petroleum Association
00:39:41 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council
00:40:42 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association
(WETA)
00:41:29 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers (IBEW)
00:43:09 Willie Duffield, Montana Association of Oil, Gas & Coal
Counties (MAOGC)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:44:27 Chuck Magraw, National Resources Defense Council and
Renewable Northwest Project
00:52:14 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
(MEIC)
01:06:25 Matt Leow, Northern Plains Resource Council

EXHIBIT (ens33a03)

01:10:53 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters
01:13:11 Sen. Lewis left the hearing.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:15:19 Sen. Hawks
01:15:57 Sen. Bales
01:17:18 Sen. Hawks
01:17:35 Sen. Bales
01:17:42 Sen. Curtiss entered the hearing.
01:18:09 Sen. Hawks
01:18:34 Sen. Bales
01:19:33 Sen. Hawks
01:19:52 Sen. Bales
01:21:54 Sen. Moss
01:22:25 Chuck Magraw
01:22:32 Sen. Moss
01:23:00 Anne Hedges
01:23:29 Sen. Moss
01:24:00 Sarah Cobler
01:24:04 Sen. Moss
01:24:16 Sarah Cobler
01:24:41 Sen. Moss
01:25:05 Todd O'Hair
01:25:08 Sen. Moss
01:25:23 Todd O'Hair

01:26:00 Sen. Erickson
01:27:40 Anne Hedges
01:31:29 Chairman Laible
01:31:48 Sen. Tropila
01:32:25 Sen. Bales
01:33:48 Sen. Tropila
01:33:57 Sen. Bales
01:34:33 Sen. Brown
01:35:08 Tim Gregori
01:35:19 Sen. Gebhardt
01:35:57 Sarah Cobler
01:36:28 Sen. Gebhardt
01:36:53 Chairman Black
01:37:20 Tim Gregori
01:39:01 Chairman Black
01:39:09 Tim Gregori
01:40:19 Chairman Black
01:40:44 Sen. Bales
01:41:39 Chairman Black
01:42:23 Anne Hedges
01:43:01 Chairman Black
01:43:10 Sen. Bales

Closing by Sponsor:

01:44:08 Sen. Bales

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 376

01:51:53 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **SB 376 DO PASS.**
MOTION CARRIED unanimously by voice vote with Sens. Esp
and Lewis voting by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:55 P.M.

Nadine Spencer, Secretary

ns

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([ens33aad.pdf](#))